

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached replacement sheet of drawing include changes to Fig.3.

Under “Transportation”, amended “Traffic Facilities + Walk” to --Transportation
Facilities + Walk--.

REMARKS

Claims 1, 8 and 13 are currently pending. Claims 2-7, 9-12 and 14-16 are cancelled.

Information Disclosure Statement

The Office Action indicated that the listing of a reference in the specification is not a proper Information Disclosure Statement. The Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2003-214860 referenced in the Background of the Invention section of the Specification is submitted in the concurrently filed Information Disclosure Statement.

The Specification

The specification and Fig. 3 were amended to change “traffic means” and “traffic facilities” to “transportation” means and facilities, as suggested in the Office Action. In addition, the specification was amended to correct “angle (θ_i)” and “angle (θ_a)” to --angle (α_i)-- and --angle (α_a)-- respectively. No new matter was added.

Claim Objections

The Office Action objected to various errors in claims 1, 2, 4, 9 and 14. Claim 1 was amended to correct minor errors. The other claims were cancelled.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 5, 10 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, for incorrectly reciting repeated claim elements. These rejections are now moot because claims 5, 10, and 15 are now cancelled.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §101

Claims 10-15 (should be claims 11-15) are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101. Claim 13 was amended as suggested in the Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2004/0044470 to Matsuoka et al. (Matsuoka) in vie of U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2002/0128768 to Nakano et al. (Nakano). However, the cited prior art does not disclose nor suggest all the features recited in the present claimed invention, as amended.

Matsuoka describes that the server transmits map data and route data to the terminal device separately, guide points and guide information are provided in the route data and the terminal device displays the map and route and further displays the guide information at the guide point.

Amended claims 1, 8 and 13 recite the guide point being set if the route turn angle, e.g. at the intersection, is equal to or less than a predetermined angle. This feature makes it possible to set the guide point at a spot necessary for guidance in the route, that is a spot where moving direction changes beyond the predetermined angle, and to provide the guidance to users for that spot. Matsuoka does not disclose at least this claimed feature.

Nakano describes that the server transmits only route data to the terminal device without transmitting map data and the terminal device out-puts guide information at the guide point included in the route data from the server. Accordingly Nakano is different from the present

invention using both of map data and route data. Furthermore, Nakano describes in paragraph [0139] that in the areas surrounding the guide points, detailed guide information is added and in the other areas, the other information (only minimum guide information) is added. Therefore, a combination of Matsuoka and Nakano can not achieve nor render obvious the present invention.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure: Replacement Sheet of Fig. 3